

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 NIC-01 SAM-01 EUR-25

DRC-01 /163 W

----- 005449

R 030820Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4107

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 2876

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VS, VN, CM

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT OF DRV DIPLOMATIC CAMPAIGN IN AFRICA

REF: STATE 171607

1. AS NOTED REFTTEL, CAMEROON RECOGNIZES PRG. THIS RECOGNITION WAS EXTENDED IN OCTOBER 1973 FOLLOWING ALGIERS NAC (YAOUNDE 3331). GURC ALSO STILL RECOGNIZES RVN (AS WELL AS NORTH VIETNAM). BUT IN CONTRAST TO NORTH VIETNAM (WHICH SINCE DECEMBER 1973 HAS ACCREDITED, IF NON-RESIDENT AMBASSADOR TO CAMEROON), NEITHER PRG NOR RVN HAS ACCREDITED AMBASSADOR. GURC EVIDENTLY WISHES TO MAINTAIN BALANCE IN RELATIONS WITH RVN AND PRG TO EACH OF WHICH IT ACCORDS EQUAL STATUS AS "ONE OF GOVERNMENTS OF SOUTH VIETNAM".

2. YAOUNDE 1673 REPORTED VISIT TO CAMEROON IN MAY 1974 OF SPECIAL RVN EMISSARY WHO WAS DECENTLY RECEIVED AND LEFT ENCOURAGED THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE, WITH GURC BLESSING, VISIT TO SOUTH VIETNAM BY CAMEROONIAN JOURNALISTS. EMISSARY LEFT HOPEFUL THAT GURC WOULD REFRAIN FROM DEVELOPING FURTHER ITS RELATIONS WITH PRG, E.G., NOT ACCEPT ACCREDITATION OF AN AMBASSADOR. HE INDICATED RVN FOR ITS PART HAS NO PLANS TO ACCREDIT ONE OF ITS OWN.

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3. WE WOULD EXPECT GURC FOR FORESEEABLE FUTURE TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN WHAT IF PERCEIVES AS IMPARTIAL POSTURE, A NATURALLY COMFORTABLE ONE IN CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES. THIS IS MOST THAT CAN BE EXPECTED. GURC MAY RPT MAY PERMIT VISITS SUCH AS THE ONE ENVISAGED FOR JOURNALISTS--WHICH COULD BE USEFUL TO RVN IMAGE IN CAMEROON--BUT IS UNLIKELY TO STICK NECK OUT VERY FAR IN ANY WAY SEEMINGLY IN FAVOR OF RVN. ULTIMATELY, GURC CAN BE EXPECTED TO RIDE ANY PREPONDERANT NON-ALIGNED TIDE IN WHICHEVER DIRECTION IF FLOWS.
FRIEDMAN

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NNN

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30 JUN 2005

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